

In The Claims

1 1. - 3. (cancelled)

1 4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is
2 separate from said sheath.

1 5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is
2 incorporated within said sheath.

1 6. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising a sealing
2 valve coupled to said sheath to seal said lumen.

1 7. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has at least
2 one portion with a stiffness different than remaining portions of said sheath.

1 9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has at least
2 one portion with a moldability different than remaining portions of said sheath.

1 10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath is deployed
2 in a body cavity and has at least one portion with a moldability which can be altered at
3 the time of implantation in said body cavity.

1 11 (original) The apparatus of claim 10 where said at least one portion has its
2 moldability altered before said sheath is implanted into said body cavity.

1 12. (original) The apparatus of claim 10 where said at least one portion has its
2 moldability altered after said sheath is implanted into said body cavity.

1 13. – 28. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 29. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:
2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 selectively imparted to it by a user by bending of the sheath along its length; and
4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued inserted presence of said shaping tool in the sheath.

1 30. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath is characterized by a
2 sufficient moldability so that removal of said shaping tool does not result in any
3 substantial displacement of said sheath from said specific shape.

1 31. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has a lumen and where
2 said shaping tool applied to said sheath comprises an elongate shaping tool which is
3 telescopically disposed within said lumen in said sheath.

1 32. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:
2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 imparted to it; and
4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool,
7 where said shaping tool applied to said sheath comprises a shaping tool applied
8 exteriorly to said sheath and imposing a shaping force thereon.

1 33. - 36. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 37. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said moldable sheath has at least a
2 portion of changed moldability relative to remaining portions of said sheath.

1 38. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 37 where said portion which changes its
2 moldability while in said body cavity comprises at least a portion of said sheath having a
3 moldability dependant on temperature in which said moldability of said sheath is
4 changed while in said body cavity and exposed to a body cavity temperature elevated
5 above ambient temperature.

1 39. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:

2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 imparted to it; and

4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool,

7 where said moldable sheath has at least a portion of changed moldability relative
8 to remaining portions of said sheath,

9 where said portion which changes its moldability while in said body cavity
10 comprises at least a portion of said sheath having a moldability dependant on
11 temperature in which said moldability of said sheath is changed while in said body
12 cavity and exposed to a body cavity temperature elevated above ambient temperature,
13 and

14 where said portion which changes its memory shape while in said body cavity
15 comprises at least a portion having a moldability dependant on moisture in which said
16 moldability of said sheath is changed while in said body cavity and exposed to moisture.

1 40. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 37 where said portion of changed moldability
2 has its moldability changed by treating at least a portion of said sheath exterior to said
3 body cavity prior to implanting.

1 41. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:
2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 imparted to it; and
4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool,
7 where said moldable sheath has at least a portion of changed moldability
8 relative to remaining portions of said sheath,
9 where said portion of changed moldability has its moldability changed by treating
10 at least a portion of said sheath exterior to said body cavity prior to implanting, and
11 where said portion of changed moldability has its moldability changed by
12 exposing at least a portion of said sheath to radiation.

1 42. - 52. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 53. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:
2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 imparted to it; and

4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said moldable
7 sheath has a tip portion and where said tip portion is substantially soft and compliant
8 without appreciable moldability.

1 54. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 55. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said moldable sheath is preshaped
2 according to its intended application within said body cavity.

1 56. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has a proximal end and
2 further comprising a sealing valve disposed on said proximal end.

1 57. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 58. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 56 where said sealing valve is integral with
2 said sheath.

1 59. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 56 where said sealing valve is separate from
2 said sheath.

1 60. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising at least one wire
2 disposed in said sheath and usable for deflecting and positioning said sheath.

1 61. - 69. (cancelled without prejudice) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising at
2 least one wire disposed in said sheath for providing an electrical conductor therein.

1 70. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is steerable.

1 71. (allowed) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool comprises a
2 guidewire.

1 72. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:
2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape
3 imparted to it; and
4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to
5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific
6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool
7 has a tip portion which is substantially soft and compliant without substantial moldability
8 rendering it nontraumatic.

1 73. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:

2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape

3 imparted to it; and

4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to

5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific

6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool

7 further comprises at least one lumen defined therethrough and a vent communicated

8 with said lumen.

1 74. (cancelled)

1 75. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:

2 a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape

3 imparted to it; and

4 a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to

5 impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said body cavity, which specific

6 shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool

7 further comprises a conductor disposed therethrough and an electrode coupled to said

8 conductor for sensing or delivery of energy from said electrode.

1 76. – 89. (cancelled without prejudice)

1 90. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:

2 a moldable sheath with sufficient moldability at body temperatures to at least
3 temporarily retain a specific shape imparted to it; and
4 a lumen defined in said moldable sheath, where said sheath has at least one
5 portion with a stiffness different than remaining portions of said sheath wherein the
6 sheath is comprised of a relatively stiffer proximal portion and relatively stiffer distal
7 portion extending to a distal tip with a relatively less stiff intermediate portion
8 therebetween.

1 91. (allowed) An apparatus comprising:

2 a moldable sheath with sufficient moldability at body temperatures to at least
3 temporarily retain a specific shape imparted to it; and
4 a lumen defined in said moldable sheath, where said sheath has at least one
5 portion with a moldability different than remaining portions of said sheath wherein the
6 sheath is comprised of a relatively less moldable proximal portion and relatively less
7 moldable distal portion extending to a distal tip with a relatively more moldable
8 intermediate portion therebetween..

1 92. (cancelled without prejudice)
